OPEN CONNECTIVITY FOR CABLE INTERNET CUSTOMERS

National Cable & Telecommunications Association April 18, 2003

Coalition of Broadband Users & Innovators
(CBUI) have shown no evidence of harm: claims
like "Interference (real or threatened) leads to
less investment and innovation at the edges of
the network" are belied by growth of websites
and applications spurred by cable's private
investment in broadband

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- CBUI is essentially seeking broad regulation that:
 - Creates a common carrier regime where predicates are missing, no statute authorizes it and no need shown
 - Reverses 25 years of federal policy away from regulating in emerging markets
 - Will lead to heavy government involvement in the Internet when commercial interests make a claim of "interference"
 - Is essentially a business strategy that coincidentally sounds like healthy Internet "openness"

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- There's no evidence of harm to justify regulation. Cable Internet customers can pick, choose, analyze or digest any content or run any applications via cable broadband connections.
- Cable Internet customers have unrestricted access to their choice of lawful Internet content and click-though access to any unaffiliated Internet Service Provider (ISP). Customers can set their home page to their preferred ISP or online content provider.

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- Cable consumers can connect modem devices of their own choice to cable networks and can buy modems from retail outlets.
- Cable customers can use any gaming devices, like XBox or PlayStation, consistent with the usage provisions of their service plan and the technical limits of the network. And they can attach any computing device to their modems.

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